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## Summation in Christian Front Trial Begins DW 6/13/40 Defense Urges Jury Not to Be Swayed by '5th Column' Talk

Trial of fourteen members and supporters of the "Christian Front" in Brooklyn yesterday heard the first of a series of summation speeches after ten weeks during which the government presented its evidence on charges that the men conspired to overthrow the United States government and to steal government munitions.

Before summation by the five defense attorneys, Judge Marcus

Campbell denied motions to dismiss charges against the Frontiers.

Walter N. Thayer, defense attorney for Captain John T. Prout of the 165th Infantry, National Guard, argued that the jury should not be swayed by "fifth column" hysteria in arriving at its verdict. Prout is accused of supplying the plotters with ammunition and explosives from a National Guard armory.

The trial began on April 3, and the government called 59 witnesses in presenting its case.

The names of Father Coughlin, Representative Jacob Thorkelson, Martin Dies, the late Ralph M. Easley and other similar reactionary forces in American life were heard throughout the trial, but the government studiously shielded them from any direct implication with the group of terrorists.